

Wednesday, February 04, 2004

1AD vets teach Iraqis new techniques

Story by Sgt. Mark S. Rickert
Photos by Spc. Blanka Stratford
372nd MPAD

Baghdad, Iraq – Army veterinary Soldiers, along with Iraqi vets, performed the Iraqi Society for Animal Welfare's first neutering procedure as part of an animal population control program started by the 354th Civil Affairs Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

Until now, spaying and neutering has been low on Iraq's totem pole of priorities. The procedure is rarely executed here; most veterinary clinics in Baghdad are geared toward agriculture and food-animal production, said Col. Mark E. Gants, a Coalition Joint Task Force veterinarian attached to the 30th Medical Brigade.

With a lack spaying and neutering, Iraq is practically raining cats and dogs. The prewar Iraqi way of animal population control--the old regime paid the Iraqis 250 Dinars per stray animal, dead or alive--became nonexistent after conflicts began. Since then, the animal population has skyrocketed, said Capt. William E. Sumner, a civil affairs officer with the 354th.

The possibility of a breeding craze got the civil affairs units involved with animal population control, and this spade-and-neuter program is one of many steps toward doing that.

Now that the civil affairs team has the Iraqi Society for Animal Welfare up and running, Soldiers want veterinarians that can give standard operations there. But the education system in Iraq has not stressed the importance of spaying and neutering, and the Iraqi veterinarians received substandard training in these procedures, said Sumner. Most veterinarians in Iraq never even touch an animal during their four years of college.

"This is not a common practice in Iraq," said Farrah Murrai, assistant director at the Baghdad zoo and director of the Iraqi Society for Animal Welfare. "In school we only read about the operation."

The civil affairs team brought in Army to lead the neutering operations while the Iraqis assisted and took notes.

"By having U.S. veterinarians teach the Iraqi vets, we are increasing their overall skill level that their education denied them," said Sumner. "This enables the Iraqi vets to learn and pass on what they've learned, so they can establish a functional animal population control system to eliminate over population."



Col. Mark E. Gants, a Coalition Joint Task Force veterinarian attached to the 30th Medical Brigade, leads a neutering operation at the Iraqi Society of Animal Welfare in Baghdad.

Chaplain's thought for the day...
Character

Leadership is a combination of strategy and character. If you must be without one, be without the strategy.

--Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf

The Old Ironsides Report

February 4, 2004

News...

Poison Ricin Found in Sen. Frist's Office

WASHINGTON (AP) - Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist said Tuesday that a white powder found in his office tested positive for the deadly poison ricin, forcing closure of Senate office buildings and close scrutiny of congressional mail. It was the second such scare from a lethal toxin to hit the nation's capital. Between 40 and 50 Capitol employees were quarantined briefly in the ricin scare and decontaminated, according to several Senate aides who spoke on condition of anonymity - considerably more than originally thought.

Edwards, Clark Hope to Stop Kerry Sweep

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) - John Edwards and Wesley Clark hoped to prevent front-runner John Kerry from sweeping the seven states with elections Tuesday while Howard Dean looked to a later day to rejuvenate his faltering campaign for president. Edwards, in his native South Carolina, declared "I'm going to win tonight." Edwards has said he must win in South Carolina to prove his campaign is viable. Polls show Kerry nipping at his heels there.

U.N. Team to Assist in Iraq Transition

WASHINGTON (AP) - The United Nations will send a team to Iraq to help its political transition in anticipation of the turnover of power there June 30, Secretary General Kofi Annan told President Bush on Tuesday. The two men met in the Oval Office, where Bush said, "I'm upbeat and optimistic about the future of the world." He said the United Nations has a vital role in Iraq.

North Korea Agrees to Hold Nuclear Talks

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - North Korea said Tuesday that it has agreed to six-way nuclear talks starting Feb. 25, prompting expectations the countries will discuss the communist nation's offer to freeze its atomic programs in exchange for concessions from Washington. The announcement was a breakthrough after months of trying to restart negotiations among the United States, China, Russia, Japan and the two Koreas. An earlier round, aimed at persuading North Korea to abandon its nuclear programs, ended in August without much progress.

Britain to Probe Accuracy of Iraq Intel

LONDON (AP) - The British government announced Tuesday that it would hold an inquiry into the intelligence used in deciding to go to war with Iraq, and expected findings to be ready months before a similar investigation in the United States. The White House was leaning toward naming members of its commission on intelligence failures on Wednesday, when President Bush is expected to give a speech on terrorism at Library of Congress, a senior administration official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

Sports...

Shaq, Kidd Among All-Star Team Reserves

NEW YORK (AP) -- LeBron James missed the cut Tuesday in voting for All-Star reserves, finishing behind Eastern Conference guards Paul Pierce, Michael Redd, Baron Davis and Jason Kidd. "Being selected to the All-Star team, it wouldn't be nothing new to me," James said Tuesday before the 14 reserves were announced. "I've been on All-Star teams my whole life. That's just how I play the game of basketball." The league's 29 coaches selected the reserves. Shaquille O'Neal of the Los Angeles Lakers was among the Western Conference reserves for the league's showcase event Feb. 15 in Los Angeles. Other All-Star reserves for the West are Dirk Nowitzki of Dallas, Peja Stojakovic and Brad Miller of Sacramento, Sam Cassell of Minnesota, Andrei Kirilenko of Utah and Ray Allen of Seattle. The other East reserves are Jamaal Magloire of New Orleans, Ron Artest of Indiana and Kenyon Martin of New Jersey. "Not a bad thing to be on your resume, All-Star in front of your name," said Martin, one of six players making their first All-Star appearance. Redd is averaging 22.1 points for the surprising Milwaukee Bucks, Pierce is the league's sixth-leading scorer (22.9) for Boston, Davis of New Orleans had the league's fifth-highest average (23.2), and Kidd has led New Jersey to first place in the Atlantic Division. Starters for the league's 53rd All-Star game, selected in fan balloting, are Vince Carter of Toronto, Tracy McGrady of Orlando, Ben Wallace of Detroit, Jermaine O'Neal of Indiana, Allen Iverson of Philadelphia for the East; Yao Ming of Houston, Kobe Bryant of the Lakers, Kevin Garnett of Minnesota, Steve Francis of Houston and Tim Duncan of San Antonio for the West. Minnesota's Flip Saunders will coach the West, and Rick Carlisle of the Pacers will coach the East. James is averaging 20.8 points, 5.9 assists and 5.9 rebounds for the Cleveland Cavaliers, whose surge of six victories in eight games has moved them into contention for a playoff spot in the East. The 19-year-old rookie is 13th in the NBA in scoring and 12th in assists, averaging 24.1 points since Cleveland traded Ricky Davis to Boston in mid-December. James, Pierce, Allen and McGrady are the only players averaging at least 20 points, five rebounds and five assists. There will be six All-Stars with international roots - Kirilenko (Russia), Stojakovic (Serbia and Montenegro), Magloire (Canada) Nowitzki (Germany), Yao (China) and Duncan (U.S. Virgin Islands) - which ties the record set a year ago. Cleveland coach Paul Silas said he had expected James to make the Eastern team. "He's put up the kind of numbers that warrants that. We're beginning to win and that's also a major factor," Silas said. Other players having strong seasons who did not make the All-Stars include Mike Bibby of Sacramento, Latrell Sprewell of Minnesota, Chauncey Billups and Richard Hamilton of Detroit, Michael Finley of Dallas and Zach Randolph of Portland.

Techie Names First Son Version 2.0

HOLLAND, Mich. (AP) -- Tacking Jr. or II onto a boy's name is too common, a new father decided, so the self-described engineering geek took a software approach to naming his newborn son. Jon Blake Cusack talked his wife, Jamie, into naming their son Jon Blake Cusack 2.0. Version 2.0 was born Tuesday at Holland Community Hospital, and the proud parents took him home Friday. "I wanted to find something different to name him besides Jon Blake," Cusack, who is self-employed with Westshore Design and Cusack Music, told The Holland Sentinel. He said he had the idea for a few months, and spent the better part of that time persuading his wife to go along. Jamie Cusack said she didn't concede until the week before the birth. She said she had "picked out the theme of the baby's room and done other things. I decided to let Jon have this." After 2.0's birth, the Cusacks sent out an electronic birth announcement. "I wrote in the birth announcement e-mail stuff, like there's a lot of features from version 1.0 with additional features from Jamie," Jon Cusack said.

The Old Ironsides Report

February 4, 2004

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 04, 2004				As of: Wednesday, February 04, 2004 12:24:04 AM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
0:00	HOT LIST	HEADLINE NEWS	THE LONG GRAY LINE	TODAY		0:00
0:30	HOT LIST	TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO			NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS - <i>PROD YEAR</i>	0:30
1:00	AROUND THE HORN				LESTER HOLT LIVE	1:00
1:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN				1:30
2:00	SPORTSCENTER			SESAME STREET	HEADLINE NEWS	2:00
2:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES		NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	2:30
3:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG TEN: ILLINOIS @ INDIANA	4 QTRS	ROCKET POWER : - REGGIE & A NET	BOB THE BUILDER	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	3:00
3:30		NHL - DETROIT RED WINGS @ NASHVILLE PREDATORS	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	WHEEL OF FORTUNE	CBS EVENING NEWS	3:30
4:00			THE SIMPSONS : - BART THE GENERAL	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	FOX NEWS LIVE	4:00
4:30			THE COSBY SHOW : - BACK TO THE TRACK, JACK			4:30
5:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - SEC: KENTUCKY @ FLORIDA		ALLY MCBEAL : - GIRLS NIGHT OUT	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW	FOX NEWS LIVE	5:00
6:00			STAR TREK: NEXT GENERATION : - TRUE Q	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	FOX NEWS LIVE	6:00
6:30		ESPNEWS		JUDGE JUDY		6:30
7:00	ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	ON THE AIR...OVER THERE - PART 4: FROM THE DESERT TO THE DIGITAL AGE: 1990-PRESENT	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	7:00
7:25				GUIDING LIGHT		7:25
7:30	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG 12 WOMEN'S: TEXAS TECH @ TEXAS	ESPNEWS	LEGENDS OF AIRPOWER - BENJAMIN DAVIS AND THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN		NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	7:30
8:00		HEADLINE NEWS	SUICIDE MISSIONS : - COMBAT MEDICS		LARRY KING LIVE	8:00
8:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL		8:13
8:30		HEADLINE NEWS				8:30
9:00		SESAME STREET	CINEMA COMBAT: COMBAT: HOLLYWOOD GOES TO WAR	BABY LOONEY TUNES : - SHADOW OF A DOUBT	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	9:00
9:30	NFL LIVE			THE ADVENTURES OF JIMMY NEUTRON, BOY GENIUS : - I DREAM OF JIMMY/RAISE THE OOZY SCAB		9:30
10:00	SPORTSCENTER	BOB THE BUILDER		A WALK IN YOUR SHOES	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE		STRANGE DAYS AT BLAKE HOLSEY HIGH (YR. 1, EPS 1-13) (TV-7); - MAGNET		10:30
11:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - ATLANTIC 10: CINCINNATI @ XAVIER	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	ROCKET POWER : - REGGIE & A NET	JEOPARDY!	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	HEADLINE NEWS	AFNEWS ON ASSIGNMENT	11:30
11:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW				11:46
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00			THE SIMPSONS : - BART THE GENERAL	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:30			THE COSBY SHOW : - BACK TO THE TRACK, JACK	HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:35		GUIDING LIGHT				12:35
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00	SPORTSCENTER		AMERICAN IDOL 3: THE ROAD TO HOLLYWOOD	THE PARKERS : - AMAZING GRACE	CNN DAYBREAK	13:00
13:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL				13:17
13:30				THE SIMPLE LIFE		13:30
14:00	HBO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING - WELTERWEIGHTS: ANTONIO MARGARITO VS HERCULES KYVELOS	HEADLINE NEWS	AMERICAN IDOL	EXTREME MAKEOVER : - DAN AND THE TWINS	AFRTS NEWSCENTER EXTRA	14:00
14:30		JUDGE JUDY			HEADLINE NEWS	14:30
14:45	ESPNEWS		ON THE AIR...OVER THERE - PART 4: FROM THE DESERT TO THE DIGITAL AGE: 1990-PRESENT			14:45
15:00	BALLROOM BOXING	TODAY	LEGENDS OF AIRPOWER - BENJAMIN DAVIS AND THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN	THE OC : - THE ESCAPE	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
15:30			SUICIDE MISSIONS : - COMBAT MEDICS			15:30
16:00	SPORTSCENTER			HEADLINE NEWS		16:00
16:22				PACIFIC REPORT		16:22
16:30				TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO		16:30
17:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - SEC: KENTUCKY @ FLORIDA	BABY LOONEY TUNES : - SHADOW OF A DOUBT	CINEMA COMBAT: COMBAT: HOLLYWOOD GOES TO WAR		HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:30		THE ADVENTURES OF JIMMY NEUTRON, BOY GENIUS : - I DREAM OF JIMMY/RAISE THE OOZY SCAB		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN	CHANNEL ONE	17:30
17:45					ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	17:45
18:00		A WALK IN YOUR SHOES			THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30		STRANGE DAYS AT BLAKE HOLSEY HIGH (YR. 1, EPS 1-13) (TV-7); - MAGNET		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		18:30
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY!	ROCKET POWER : - REGGIE & A NET	THE GREAT GATSBY		19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS			19:30
20:00	COLLEGE GAMENIGHT	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS : - BART THE GENERAL		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
20:30	NHL - FLORIDA PANTHERS @ SAN JOSE SHARKS	HEADLINE NEWS	THE COSBY SHOW : - BACK TO THE TRACK, JACK			20:30
20:45				MO' BETTER BLUES		20:45
21:00		THE PARKERS : - AMAZING GRACE	AMERICAN IDOL 3: THE ROAD TO HOLLYWOOD		AFRTS NEWSCENTER EXTRA	21:00
21:30		THE SIMPLE LIFE			HEADLINE NEWS	21:30
22:00		EXTREME MAKEOVER : - DAN AND THE TWINS	AMERICAN IDOL		FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
23:00	HOT LIST	THE OC : - THE ESCAPE	ON THE AIR...OVER THERE - PART 4: FROM THE DESERT TO THE DIGITAL AGE: 1990-PRESENT	ESPNEWS: HOT LIST	HEADLINE NEWS	23:00
23:30	HOT LIST		LEGENDS OF AIRPOWER - BENJAMIN DAVIS AND THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN	HEADLINE NEWS	INSIDE POLITICS	23:30

Today in history... Feb. 4, 1861

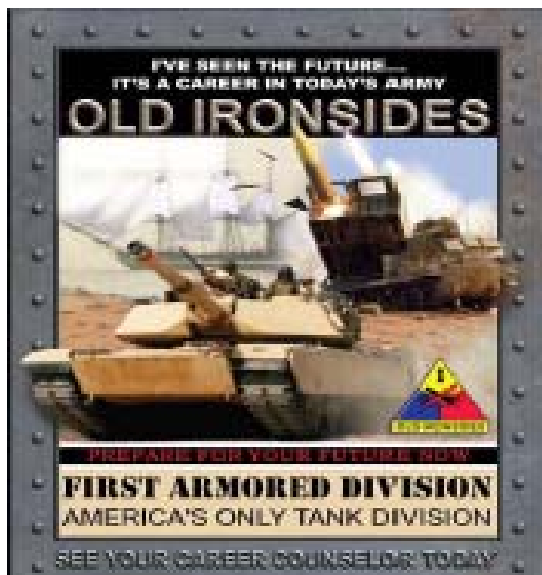
Provisional Confederate Congress convenes

The Confederate State of America is open for business when the Provisional Congress convenes in Montgomery, Alabama.

The official record read: "Be it remembered that on the fourth day of February, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and in the Capitol of the State of Alabama, in the city of Montgomery, at the hour of noon, there assembled certain deputies and delegates from the several independent South State of North America..."

The first order of business was drafting a constitution. They used the U.S. Constitution as a model, and most of it was taken verbatim. It took just four days to hammer out a tentative document to govern the new nation. The president was limited to one six-year term. Unlike the U.S. Constitution, the word "slave" was used and the institution protected in all states and any territories to be added later. Importation of slaves was prohibited, as this would alienate European nations and would detract from the profitable "internal slave trade" in the South. Other components of the constitution were designed to enhance the power of the states--governmental money for internal improvements was banned and the president was given a line-item veto on appropriations bills.

The Congress then turned its attention to selecting a president. The delegates settled on Jefferson Davis, a West Point graduate who was the U.S. Secretary of War in the 1850s and a senator from Mississippi.



Reenlistment Bonus Still Available

The Army keeps rewarding soldiers with cash for reenlisting while deployed. Task Force 1st Armored Division soldiers with less than 10 years of service can earn from \$5,000 to \$10,000 when they reenlist.

Soldiers must reenlist for 36 months. Other factors that will determine the bonus amount include years of service and current pay grade.

For more information contact your career counselor:

- Command Career Counselor: SGM James Jaranowski, 551-9405
- Retention Operations NCO: MSG Gary Schoolfield, 551-9405
- 1st Brigade: SFC Burke, Martyrs' Monument, 550-7027
- 2nd Brigade: SSG Gibson, Presidential Palace, 551-2010
- 4th Brigade: MSG Wolfe, 551-6620
- DIVARTY: SFC Hilton, 551-7030
- DIVENG: MSG Collier, 551-6131
- DISCOM SFC Casnave, 551-9405
- Division Troops: SFC Nagle, 551-9405